



PA Governor Signs Bill to Clean Up Brownfields Sites

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Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge signed into law House Bill 2057 which provides performance-based loans to businesses and communities to be used for the remediation and cleanup of abandoned industrial sites and non-hazardous waste. The new law amends the Industrial Sites Environmental Assessment Act to authorize the Department of Community and Economic Development to make performance-based loans for the remediation of brownfield sites and the cleanup of non-hazardous waste. Loans will be made through the Industrial Sites Cleanup Fund, which was previously used only to fund hazardous waste cleanups. The fund can now be used for non-hazardous waste cleanups as well. Funding collected from the loans will be deposited in the fund. The loans are only available to recipients who did not cause, or contribute to, the industrial pollution or dump the non-hazardous waste and who are voluntarily remediating the pollution. In nearly five years of Pennsylvania's Land Recycling Program, more than 600 sites have been redeveloped. The new law also clarifies that grants for conducting environmental assessments of industrial sites may be awarded to boroughs that qualify to be chartered cities under the Third Class City Code. For more information, visit <http://www.state.pa.us>.